Florentino Torres was of a different mold than his *confrere* Arellano. Torres was a fine figure of a man, robust and independent. It did one good to see him walking with vigorous stride through the court corridors. In disposing of court work he was similarly active and in deliberation was assertive and scornful of hypocrisy in all its forms. Yet always a gentleman. I was assigned to the Division over which Mr. Justice Torres presided. He spoke only Spanish and my Spanish was of the worst. But the Justice tactfully helped me bridge the gaps until we were able to understand each other. Then in the sunset of his life came disappointment when another was preferred for the Chief Justiceship made vacant by the resignation of Mr. Chief Justice Arellano. Again that same display of self-respect when Florentino Torres himself resigned in silent protest. Independent to the last.

Victorino Mapa, the third of the original constellation of Filipino jurists, was in turn of a different character from the other two. He had not the vigorous health of Torres, and handicapped by a weak body was physically unable to turn out many decisions. His decisions in form and substance also contrasted sharply with those of Mr. Chief Justice Arellano. Where the opinions of Arellano reflected Spanish breadth, Mapa's were more American in trend and were conspicuous by their brevity and logic. It is generally considered that Mr. Chief Justice Mapa had the finest legal mind on the Court. His opinion was the last word on any subject. Invariably such an opinion also reflected intense patriotism.

This characteristic Associate Justice Mapa displayed when he withdrew from congenial duties on the Supreme Court to become Secretary of Justice. Reward came to him when he was returned to the Supreme Court as its Chief Justice. I like to think of a remark made by Mr. Chief Justice Mapa which came to me subsequent to his death. After complimenting me, he added, "If all Americans had been like Malcolm, there would be no demand for independence." To which I would